

Real Mathies

A short column this issue...perhaps the shorter the better? We'll try to get a larger column in the next (and final) term) issue of mathNEWS.

A Real Mathie ...

- can prove that mathematics has as one of its roots, "evil", and that it is not true (wlog) that the root of all evil is mathematics.

- a guy who only applies for one co-op job knowing he will get an interview and the job easily.

(mathNEWS note: we only print these things,,,we don't make them up!)

Finally, a Real Mathie notes it's all about binary search trees.

That's it for this week...we look forward to your submissions!

Stuff

We thank you for your questionnaire responses. We got a few ideas, and we have at least some semblance of what mathies do and don't like in mathNEWS. Due to time and space restrictions, any detailed examination will have to wait until next issue.

NOTICE!!! Speaking of next issue, we plan to have the final mathNEWS of the term out on 31 March 1983 (last day of classes!). If you would like to help produce the final edition, watch the bulletin board outside MC3035 or inquire at MathSoc (MC3038) on Friday the 25th, and we'll have the exact date and time of the Production meeting finalized. Come help out and produce your Math newspaper!

The Bugs Bunny Road Runner Hour

(or, The Phantom Strikes!!)

One day, as I was strolling into class, I saw great hordes of people discussing their new sophisticated watches. They had calculator watches, digital wrist radio watches and other assorted electronic marvels. I settled down in class, taking notes until IT happened. IT was annoying, unsettling, and downright crazy. IT drove me up the wall everytime it happened.

Yes, folks, I am talking about the menace of the beeping watch. IT always squeaks off at precisely the top of every hour, 24 hours a day. If an algebra class starts at 1:30, then the following scenario occurs:

The prof is teaching us some material. Shortly before two, though...

"And now, we get to learn the-*beep*-Theorem, which is useful for GCDs.

"Ha, ha, your watch is fast," whispers a student.

But then a few more beeps occur a few minutes later.

"We see that this theorem depends on *Beep-Beeee-Bee-Beep* for its efficiency." And finally, the whole room suddenly breaks out into an electronic circus of beeps.

"Now, before I forget, this week's assignment is *BEEE-BEEP-BIP-BEEE-BEEE-Beep* and you must be sure to *Beep* the equations of else you wind up with a *BEEP* mess."

Arrgh!!! He couldn't have sworn. It must have been those watches. I can't wait for those new talking watches.

the Phantom
{Reprint from Volume 27 Number 6 of 20 November 1981}

15th Anniversary MC-Quiz

Did you know that your Math and Computer building is about to turn 15? Within the next couple of years we should see the first frosh who is actually younger than the building! Well, we at mathNEWS decided that this event should not go unnoticed, so in praise of this magnificent monolith we propose this 15th Anniversary MC-Quiz.

You might like to jot down answers to these questions and drop them in the mathNEWS box on the third floor. We'll announce the winner and perhaps give him/her/it a prize befitting the accomplishment.

Beware! Not all the questions are easy, so don't be surprised to miss a few. Here goes.

1. Who were the architects of the building?
2. What famous person associated with the building proceeded to kill himself at a later date?
3. What are the highest and lowest room numbers in the building?
4. You've no doubt seen the WIDGET room, but what is the room number of the "midget room"? (Tricky one.)
5. What is the official name of each of the "7th floors"?
6. Where in the building is there a stairwell sealed off?
7. What was on the 4th floor before the EMS Library?
8. What motion picture was filmed partially in the Red Room? Whatever happened to the thing? Was it ever released? You tell us!
9. (Grand finale) How many window panes are there on the outer walls, in all?

The answers may require some scavenging and skulduggery, so just give us as many as you can get.

I doubt there'll be much bubbly flowing on May 23rd when MC turns 15, so we ask you to think of it on its day for what it is: warm in the winter, a block of ice in the summer, bustling in the daytime, deserted (but always open) at night, and despite many competitors, still the most impressive and modern-looking building at Waterloo. Happy 15th!

(Answers next issue!)

Ross Brown

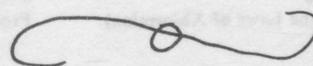
Hitchhiker's
Guide to the -

math NEWS

Volume 31

Number
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DON'T PANIC!



MATT'S ADVICE ON HOW TO GET A VDT (VIDEO DISPLAY TAN).

This is for those of you who are too poor to buy your own VDT (like me)! We don't have the best selection of terminals here at Waterloo, so I make do with 3278's.

1. WHERE TO DO IT. I like MC 1078. There are lots of 3278's, it's usually not busy, and there's lots of room to stretch out between the tables.

2. SETTING UP. Pick an old one (the screens are brighter). Pull up a chaise lounge, and make your apologies to anyone nearby who's actually working.

3. DOING IT! Have a seat, and crank up the brightness. Fill that screen with 8's, relax, forget CS 370, and soak up a nice green tan!

Don't like green tans? Some VC's give off orange-perfecto!

Tune in next week and I'll show you how to use hi-voltage discharge to get an ARE TAN!

Did you hear the one about the CS student who tried to spool a plot for the Varian and crashed the Honeywell?
 He was arrested by UM security for "plotting to overthrow the system".
 Heh heh heh
 That wasn't very funny, now, was it?
 (No, not very. Please send your posse to W. Ross Brown c/o mathNEWS.)

The Math Corner

Theorem: $r\theta = \theta$

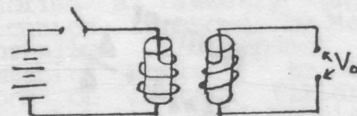
Proof 1:



(Proof by Confusion)

Proof 2: Assume $r\theta = \theta$
 $\therefore r\theta = \theta$
 This does not contradict the hypothesis.
 $\therefore r\theta = \theta$
 (Proof by Assumption)

Proof 3:



(Proof by Induction)

Proof 4: $r\theta = r\theta$
 $r\theta = r\theta$
 $r\theta = r\theta$
 $r\theta = r\theta$
 $r\theta = \theta$
 $r\theta = \theta$
 $r\theta = \theta$
 (Proof Using the Laws of Absorption)

Proof 5: Define r to be 1
 $\therefore r\theta = \theta$
 (Proof by Definition)

Proof 6: It's intuitively obvious.
 (Proof by Calculus Prof)

Proof 7: It can be shown that $r\theta = \theta$.
 (Proof by Algebra Prof)

Proof 8: At this point we ask a mathematician.
 (Proof by CS Prof)

Proof 9: As will be shown in 4th year, $r\theta = \theta$
 (Proof by First Year Prof)

Proof 10: Well, I can't find a counter-example.
 (Proof by Apathy)

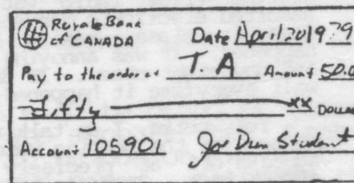
Proof 11: Drink a mickey of rum and a 12-pack of your choice and prove me wrong
 (Proof by Imbibing)

Proof 12: $\Rightarrow \dots$
 $\therefore r\theta = \theta$
 Q.E.D.

(Proof by this is an exam question that I haven't the slightest idea how to do, but I have to put in something, or I'll flunk, and if I flunk, they'll kick me out, and my parents don't want me back and who can get a job anyway, so I'd better put lots of squiggles and some \therefore 's and \Rightarrow 's and maybe I'll fool the bloody TA, who is pretty much out to lunch, and maybe, I get part marks)

Proof 13: There is no proof 13
 (Proof by Monty Python Freaks)

Proof 14:



(Proof by Bribe)

Proof 15: My brother is a member of Hell's Angels and he agrees with whatever I say and I say $r\theta = \theta$ and you better not disagree with my brother if you know what's good for you.
 (Proof by Intimidation)

Proof 16: I'm a prof and you're a lousy student, so IM right.
 (Proof by Precedence)

Proof 17: The guy next to me put $r\theta = \theta$
 (Proof by Neighbourhood)

Proof 18: As shown in <some non-existent but very impressive-sounding text book>
 (Proof by Reference)

Proof 19: Trust me.
 (Proof by Nixon's Theorem)

Proof 20: Have I ever lied to you?
 (Proof by Jewish Mother)

MATHSOC REPLY

In response to the 'Semi-Editorial' of the last issue of mathNEWS, I would like to inform you of current ongoings within the Mathsoc office and Council:

1. The question of, the right to existence of, mathNEWS as far as the current administration is concerned, has never been a point of contention.
2. It has been strongly recommended by the Council to mathNEWS that its operating expenses be curtailed this term because of the limited funding available. As can be confirmed by the minutes of the Council meeting of February 22, 1983, it was suggested that this be done by reducing the size of the publication to an average of 6 pages per issue, reducing its distribution by 100 copies and reducing its frequency of publication by excluding any 'special edition' this term. Again, it was never suggested that mathNEWS stop publishing.
3. Suspicions that Council wants mathNEWS to strive for self-sufficiency by obtaining paid-for, outside advertising should be put to a halt. At the Council meeting of February 22, it was suggested that this be considered as a long-range strategy, however, it was also suggested and endorsed by the Council in general, that such action could in no way be undertaken currently or in the very near future given the current staff limitations of mathNEWS.
4. Many of the council are just now taking office and one of the areas of our concern has been that Society fees have not increased in ten years while Society services have deteriorated seriously (ie. maintenance of lounges, bringing the standards of the C&D up to meet with health authority requests, activities, etc.). At the Council meeting of February 22, a Committee was appointed to examine the financing problems and to propose a method of confronting the student body with them. Many people have expressed differing opinions on the amount of any potential increase. No affirmative decisions or commitments have yet been made by the ad hoc Committee nor by the Council.

Please note that any suggestions, comments, assistance or general input with respect to these or any matters are more than welcome. Just drop a note in my office mailbox (marked Vice-president for any Artsies that may be reading), speak to me Kelly Masterson, drop by the Mathsoc office or send mail to MATHSOC via the Honeywell or CMS.

MathSoc, the publisher of mathNEWS is committed to seeing that the undergrad student body in the Math Faculty receives value for its money. If you too want this, give us a hand ... no offer of assistance will be refused, no contract of service will be required!

Let's make the biggest society on Campus the Best Society on Campus.

Thanks for your time and I hope that this notice sees to it that there is more forthcoming.

Kelly Masterson
V-P Mathsoc

p.s. -- Ancient Chinese Proverb -- Many hands make lights work.

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Feedback

First of all, I think MATHSOC has a lot of nerve commenting (i.e. degrading) on the usefulness of MATHNEWS. Like any public media, it is there to inform the (MATH) public at large. They should learn to use it to let us (the paying public) know what the hell they are doing with the other 80-90% of the fee. The math faculty is one of the most apathetic faculties (socially) on campus. Granted, we are also one of the most diverse, but MATHSOC certainly is not doing anything drastic to change the situation. If we were one half as cohesive as the engineers (Did I say engineer? Twenty lashes with a Psych Majors tongue for that one!) we would have class parties, pink tie days, and disrupt engineering classes for an hour. Mathnews is a valuable asset for MATHSOC and they should be trying to better utilize the money spent on a project which benefits the students at large than redirecting it toward one of their own pet projects. That is why we voted for a new (MATHSOC) constitution. We want something better, not just a new cover. There has been a big improvement but the people have to see & hear to believe.

The other problem is the fee increase. Like any other public institution, MATHSOC must justify its need for more money. This does not mean merely stating "Because." We want and must know what improvements (benefits) we will receive for "our" money. (Now, what good is MATHNEWS?) They are going to have a hard time justifying a 100% increase in fees, not to mention putting it to a "useful" purpose. I would prefer maybe a \$1 or \$1.50 increase for two years. After two years we could reevaluate what they were doing and then approve or disapprove.

Stewart Moffat
4B C.S.

Grid Word bites the dust

Due to a lack of submissions, there will be no prize for the Grid Word. Hence, the answer appears in this issue. Thanks to the scarce few who did submit a Grid Word.

C	P	A	I	R		A	G	A	I	N	S	T
A	L	I	B	I	X	N	O	N	S	U	C	H
S	I	A	M	A	N	G	X	O	M	A	H	A
H	E	X	X	T	I	L	E	D	X	N	I	T
X	R	E	L	A	T	I	V	E	X	C	S	X
P	X	H	E	X	O	N	E	X	J	E	T	S
A	T	X	M	O	N	G	R	E	L	X	X	E
R	H	Y	M	E	X	X	X	Z	X	X	V	A
A	R	E	A	R	U	G	X	X	R	A	M	P
L	E	N	X	S	N	I	P	P	E	D	X	O
L	E	X	S	T	A	B	I	L	I	Z	E	R
E	X	Q	U	E	U	E	X	A	G	E	N	T
L	A	I	R	D	S	X	N	N	N	X	D	S

UltraClassifieds

FOR SALE: RADIO SHACK TRS-80 Model I computer. Includes: 48K RAM, monitor, 1 disk drive, disk operating system, manuals. Make an offer. Phone 886-6761. Ask for Jim.

Masthead

mathNews, the second last issue of the term. These are the ravings of the Insane Co-Editor Scooter! (see last issue), on a four page edition, to search out any news in the Math Faculty, to print Grounded Lightning's stories, W. Ross Brown's cartoon and quiz, Co-Editor DjcL's Calendar once he sat down to do it, V-P Kelly Masterson's reply, and G. R. McFarlane's black lines. Scooter! disconnects @2054

TODAY!! Beer & Pizza Party
by Math Soc ... 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at SCH...
Cost \$1.50 at Math Soc (MC3039), \$2.00 at door!
See Math Soc for more details...

Also, if you haven't preregistered, RUN,
don't walk to MC5115 for pre-registration
materials... deadline is today (March 11).

The Profound by the Unknown

In answering your questions, I have raised more questions of greater complexity. In answering your questions I do not hope to banish your ignorance. I have, however, raised your confusion to a higher level.

We the willing
Led by the ignorant
Are doing the impossible
With the inadequate
For the ungrateful.
We have been doing so much,
With so little,
For so long,
That we are now qualified,
To do anything with nothing.

I did not write these. The authors are unknown to me, if anyone knows them.

mathNEWS Calendar!

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
11 March pre-registration ends!! Math Soc BEER & PIZZA PARTY!!	12 theatresports 8:00 p.m. MH180	13 math Soc orientation mtg. 1900 hrs.	14	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day ♣
	Fed Flix "Reds"				Cinema Gratis Lord Jim	
18	19 theatresports special - 2000 hours, Theatre of the Arts. Fed Flix "Tess"	20	21	22 Campus Day	23	24
					Cinema Gratis Orson Wells feature	
25 mathNEWS deadline - end of term issue!	26 MATH GRAD BALL Rocky Horror at Fed Flix	27	28	29	30 One day to mathNEWS end of term issue C.G.: Meatballs	31 Lectures End!! Last issue of mathNEWS this term!!